



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

"Strive, Believe, Achieve"

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Our school Values

Honesty ~ Excellence ~ Respect ~ Resilience ~ Perseverance

Our Moral Purpose - Students will be able to choose a life that has meaning.

Warracknabeal Secondary College is committed to child safety (Ministerial Order No. 870) and takes all reasonable steps to ensure that the safety of our students is paramount.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

*Term 2 Week 3
4th May,
2017*

We have had a number of positive outcomes over the last week. Last Thursday Trent King received his Premiers Award for obtaining the highest mark in the state for Engineering last year.

This is the second year in a row one of our students have won this award which is a great testament to the quality of our students work habits and staff who have supported with exam preparation. The Year 7 students hosted a morning tea for members of the community to help them with their research in preparation for the 150 Year celebration of Warracknabeal. Thank you to Ms Gordon, Ms Phelan, the Year 7 students and the community in coming together. A number of students received Young Achiever Awards recently and some others have had significant success in sport as well. Tomorrow we will celebrate the Debutante Ball with the community, which is an exciting time for students who have put in a substantial number of hours to prepare for the event.

Last night I just finished watching **13 Reasons Why** on Netflix, a show which has generated significant media attention recently. Having now completed the entire season, I concur with the concerns raised by many reputable organisations like 'Headspace' (<https://www.headspace.org.au/news/dangerous-content-in-13-reasons-why/>). I strongly recommend that if your child wants to watch this show, that you watch it with them as well. Whilst it is recommended for 15+, some countries have rated it much higher at 18+, which I can understand particularly for the second half of the season. The show appears to be a standard teenage drama; however, it has some disturbing graphic scenes that may distress viewers. Whilst the series (and book) were developed with good intentions, the nuanced message can often be misinterpreted by teenagers who may think suicide is a legitimate option, which we are steadfast in our message that it never is. As a school, we have many resources at our disposal to help any student who is in need of support. I would not recommend encouraging your children to watch it, but if they already have or are interested in watching it, this could lead to some healthy conversations about bullying, sexuality, mental health, death and suicide. The final discussion by the creators after the 13th episode is certainly helpful for students and parents to unpack some of the complex issues it raises. Please contact the school if you would like resources to support having the conversation with your children (<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-05-03/how-to-talk-to-teens-about-13-reasons-why/8492770>), or if you are concerned about a student's wellbeing, please contact the school for further support.

On the theme of talking with children, the free seminar ***It's time we talked: Pornography, young people and sexuality today*** is just a week and a half away (15th of May). Both suicide and pornography are taboo topics that we often shy away from discussing, but by doing so, causes more issues than it should. Getting information and skills to have these difficult conversations will be time well spent. I look forward to seeing you there.

Some may have noticed that in the State Budget on Tuesday there was no announcement for further funding of the Education Precinct. Whilst this is disappointing not to have full funding at this early stage, if we receive funding in the budget next May, there will be no disruption to the construction phase as it can continue seamlessly. The whole site is designed so that as soon as funding is received, the next stage can be built. Stage 1 construction will go ahead and should be completed mid to late 2018. A date for the community forum with the architect and three school principals is still being finalised.

Michael Briggs-Miller

Principal

ACTING ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL – Heath Schulz

Year 12 morning tea

On Tuesday, the staff welcomed the Year 12 cohort into the staffroom for a morning tea. While going into the staffroom was daunting to some students, I think that everyone had a great time, was well fed, and stronger relationships were formed.

Exams

The 2017 mid-year exams may seem a long time away (week 8), but it is important to start planning for them now. Further communication will be handed out to all students completing a VCE subject in the coming weeks. I encourage all students to start to make a list of the areas they know well and the areas that need addressing prior to the exam. This will assist in a clear revision and study plan in the lead-up to the exams.

Study hall

This term in study hall, we are taking a study skills focus to assist students in preparing for the end of semester exams. This term students have learnt about flashcards and breaking up exam questions. Future topics include interpreting data and using reading time.

Uniform

With the cooler weather arriving, I encourage students to ensure that they are dressed appropriately. Students are reminded to wear their blue polar fleece jackets or green woollen jumpers. If anyone requires further assistance in providing these items, please contact your child's coordinator.

Please ensure all your items of uniform are named.

Attendance

Families will be receiving letters next week asking to clarify any unexplained absence from this year. The region and the college is committed to reducing absences and thus, lost learning. If you require any additional support in getting your child to school, please contact the appropriate coordinator or myself, we are here to help!

Debutante Ball

Deb ball week is here! I look forward to seeing the students presented on Friday. The hall is looking fantastic and I am sure everyone will have a sensational evening! A final reminder that tickets can be purchased from the office for \$10.

Heath Schulz

Acting Assistant Principal

Absence Hotline - 5398 1433 Or email

Charmaine – Mon, Tues and Fri - wilson.charmaine.m@edumail.vic.gov.au

Chelsea – Wed and Thurs - smith.chelsea.r@edumail.vic.gov.au

Please notify the school by 12 noon on the day of the absence.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL – WHITNEY MUNROE

This term, we are focusing on growth and improvement with our junior students. Teachers and support staff are working hard to support students in classes to reach their highest potential.

In our Learning Pathways classes, students are developing Individual Learning Plans to support their learning and development both in and out of school. Students are exploring their interests, strengths, hobbies, and more. Plus, they are developing goals for each other's classes to help them grow academically and show improvement throughout the year.

After the successful parent/teacher interviews in week one, teachers are now working closely with students to focus on their areas for improvement from the term one reports. We will be tracking student growth and development in a variety of areas including work practices, attitude to learning, and attendance. The term two reports will outline student growth and provide the opportunity for another healthy discussion with students and families about student achievement.

We are also getting ready for NAPLAN testing, which is happening next week. The year 7 and 9 teachers are supporting their students to prepare for the exam so that students can put their best foot forward. Literacy and numeracy are key to success in life and the NAPLAN test is an opportunity for students to demonstrate what they have learned in their educational career.

If you would like to support your student with their literacy and numeracy outside of school, there are many apps and online websites that students can access on their iPads or computers. Students can also access Maths Pathways at home to complete additional maths work and accelerate their learning. If you have any questions about this, please reach out to your students' Maths and English teachers.

Whitney Munroe

Assistant Principal of Middle School

From the Office: A reminder to parents and guardians, semester 1 School fees are now due. B pay details were included on the invoice, otherwise come into the office and see Jan, Charmaine or Chelsea and they can help you out.

WELLBEING REPORT:

Well this is it people. Big things happening over the next few weeks starting with of course the Deb ball this Friday night. I am super excited to see all the amazing year 11 boys and girls do their thing at what is sure to be a spectacular event. If you haven't got tickets yet I encourage you to do so.

Then two weeks later on Monday 15th May we will be having a community forum at the community centre to talk all about current issues that young people are facing, and things that we as a school are doing to help in the students, families and community in any way we can. You will hopefully start to see the advertising for this event in the next week or so.

It is simply a privilege to work in a place like Warracknabeal Secondary College that cares so much and the wellbeing of their students and families – within the classroom and also outside the classroom.

Greg McKinnon

WSC Student Wellbeing Worker.

[Like us on Facebook.](#)



We are up to 824 LIKES on the Warracknabeal Secondary College Facebook page. If you haven't already "liked" our page make sure you do so you can get updates on what's happening around the school.

WSC INTERHOUSE CROSS COUNTRY 2017

The cross-country event is the most challenging sporting event on the school calendar for many students. Participation levels were excellent and the effort of the students was great. Participation in long distance events such as this is an excellent way to improve health and fitness, and is a very valuable experience for both the keen athlete and the less active students.

Well done to all students that participated in the true spirit of the event. A special congratulations goes to the Henty Girls who had all but 5 students compete from their group and almost doubled their score from last year!

Congratulations to the age group champions (listed below in bold lettering) and to the other runners who will represent the College at the Black Ranges Championships, in Murtoa on Thursday, 18th of May.

GIRLS

BOYS

12/13yo

1	Molly Fagan	Dylan Watts
2	Mirabella Powell	Kyle Eliades

14yo

1	Lily Eldridge	Aiden Keys
2	Brooke Laney	Tom Wright

15yo

1	Brooke Morrow	Charlie Penny
2	Casey Quick	Lachlan Stewart

16yo

1	Trinity Jonasson	Sandon Schultz
2	Rose Sleep	Jayden Smith

17-20yo

1	Lucinda Taylor	Connor Inkster
1	Rebecca Hunter	Isaac McPherson

There were some very good times in all age groups. The fastest time for the girl's 3km run was by Lucinda Taylor (13min 06sec), while for the junior boys 3km run it was Charlie Penny (11min 14sec). In the boys 5km run our fastest competitor was Connor Inkster finishing in 19 minutes 44 seconds.

HOUSE POINTS:

All participants and volunteers receive one point for their house. All runners finishing under the qualifying time for each age group get 3 points each. The first four placegetters in each age group receive the following:

1st- 20 points 2nd - 15 points 3rd - 10 points 4th - 5 points

Congratulations to the Borung who took out the Girls and Grand Aggregate. It was also great to see the Wimmera Boys have some success winning by 21 points. The final standings were:

OVERALL POINTS:

	<u>FIRST</u>	SECOND	THIRD
BOYS	<u>WIMMERA – 141</u>	BORUNG – 120	HENTY - 109
GIRLS	<u>BORUNG – 135</u>	HENTY - 87	WIMMERA – 68
OVERALL	<u>BORUNG – 256</u>	WIMMERA – 141	HENTY - 109



The following is a link to some more photos of the cross country that were taken by Cody Gebert and Lily Duncan

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/iy3gfdn4ds7ly8v/AADsI2NdPxMxC25ncSX4z18Ca?dl=0>



BLACK RANGES DIVISION ATHLETICS

North Park in Stawell played host to the second level of athletics as students from Secondary Schools around the region competed in the Black Ranges Athletics carnival on Tuesday. We had 39 students represent WSC at the carnival and each and every one of them did a fantastic job.

Below is a list of the podium finishes by our students, and students whose names and events are **bolded** have qualified for the next stage of athletics, the Greater Western Region Athletics, which will be held in Ballarat on Monday, September 18, 2017.

* To qualify for GWR Athletics, the student must come 1st in their event. A top two finish in the 800m/1500m events also means qualification.

QUALIFIERS:

- Natascha Eckermann – Shotput 1st
- Lachlan Stewart – Javelin 1st
- Kiarna Taylor – 200m 1st, 100m 1st, Triple Jump 2nd
- Zach Arnup – Shotput 1st, Discus 2nd
- Molly Stewart – Javelin 1st, Shotput 2nd, Discus 3rd
- Sam Cooper – High Jump 1st, Discus 2nd, Triple Jump 3rd, Shotput 3rd
- Jack Dean – Shotput 1st, Javelin 2nd, Discus 2nd
- Branden Hutchen – Discus 1st, 100m 2nd
- Sandon Schultz – 800m 2nd, 1500m 3rd

SPECIAL MENTION TO:

- Lily Eldridge – High Jump 3rd
- Bailey Watts – Long Jump 2nd, High Jump 2nd, Triple Jump 2nd
- Steven Carroll – Javelin 3rd
- Brooke Morrow – Long Jump 2nd, Triple Jump 3rd
- Taneisha Cooper – Shotput 3rd
- Clayton Jardine – 200m 3rd

Well done to all students on their efforts on Tuesday, especially to the qualifiers for getting through to the next stage. Finally, a massive thank-you to Mr Shannon, Mrs Sanders, and Mrs Stewart for their assistance on the day.

Will Richardson

Sports Assistant

Careers Report

Year 12 Students - ACU Early Achievers' Program – now open

Build on your volunteering and leadership experience and explore your potential with Australian Catholic University's Early Achievers' Program. Do you regularly volunteer in your community, school, church, workplace or cultural group? The Early Achievers' Program could boost your application to ACU. Applications are open from Wednesday 26 April to Monday 17 July – mark it in your calendar! If successful, you'll receive an offer in August 2017 to study in 2018, and your application will be assessed on lower minimum entry scores. You'll also benefit from opportunities to enhance your leadership and volunteering skills while at ACU. Find out more at acu.edu.au/early-achievers

Monash University – Country areas information nights

The information nights aim to provide a valuable opportunity for you to explore your future study options at Monash University. The night covers:

Course Offerings

Entry Requirements

International opportunities

Scholarships

Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS) and the Monash Guarantee

Accommodation options

All sessions will run from 6:30pm to 8pm. The closest information session is in Bendigo on Tuesday May 16th. Please register your place at <http://www.monash.edu/information-evenings>

Are you interested in Interior Design, Creative Direction & Styling or Fashion Design?

Whitehouse Institute of Design Australia offers a range of courses for creative students interested in a career in design. The 2017 Open House will be held in Melbourne on Saturday 5th August. Look up www.whitehouse-design.edu.au

Job Opportunity

Parks & Gardens Horticulture Apprenticeship

As part of the Horsham Rural City Council's ongoing commitment to apprenticeships and traineeships, applications are invited for this position. We are seeking an enthusiastic, committed person who enjoys outdoor work.

The position may include the following:

Maintain native vegetation including tree lopping

Maintain lawns & grass areas using machinery

Maintain gardens by fertilising, trimming & watering

Prune trees & hedges

Plant & transplant flowers, shrubs, trees & lawn

Identify & treat pests & diseases on plants/trees

Prepare fields, garden beds or lawn areas by cultivating soil

Handle, use & store chemicals

The successful applicant will possess the following:

Ability to work in a team environment

A keen interest in gardening, plant maintenance and landscaping

Willing to learn and undertake apprenticeship training

Be physically fit

Applicants should also demonstrate a strong commitment to succeed in this trade and have pride of work.

For further details please contact Chris Perry on 0419 312 293.

TO APPLY: Written applications including a resume and cover letter to be forwarded to Chris Perry at Skillinvest, 15-17 Dimboola Road, Horsham 3400 or emailed to recruitment@skillinvest.com.au by 5pm Friday 12th May 2017

Work Experience

Year 10 students (not going on Melbourne Trip) and Year 11 students will have a week of work experience at the end of Term 2. Year 10 from Monday 19th June and Year 11 from Monday 26th June. It is not too early to start arranging these placements. Think outside the square and challenge yourself to a placement outside of Warracknabeal. Talk to your family/friends/relatives about where you can work for a week and get the ball rolling. It is an exciting time for you to begin to explore all the different careers out there, you never know, you might find your "dream career"!! If you need any help, please see me in the Careers Office in the Library.

Preliminary Date – Wimmera Careers Expo

The 2017 Wimmera Careers Expo is being held once again in the last week of Term 2 on Tuesday 27th June at the Events Centre Longerenong. All Year 9, 10 & 12 students will be attending (Year 11 will be on Work Experience). Our Special Guest this year is AFL Women's player Moana Hope from the Collingwood Football Club. Further information to follow in future newsletters.

UPCOMING - YEAR 10/11 DEAKIN UNIVERSITY VISIT

On Friday 2nd June, Year 10/11 students will have the opportunity to visit the 2 Geelong campuses of Deakin University. Students will visit Waterfront and Waurn Ponds campuses and have the opportunity to ask questions of current students and tour the accommodation areas. There are limited spaces available (20) so if you are interested please see Mrs Stewart to have your name put on the list or reply to the post on Edmodo.

VCAL Structured Workplace Learning

As part of the Warracknabeal Secondary College VCAL program all students work locally one day per week in an industry either related to their VET course or an area of interest.

This week we Interview **Bailey Watts** about his Workplacement with **Stephensen Building**.

What are your reasons for completing Work Placement?

To get experience in the building and construction industry because it can help me out with getting a good job in the future.



How many days are you at work?

One day (Thursday)

What types of duties do you do at work?

At the moment we are doing a bathroom renovation, so that involves everything involved in fixing up a bathroom – from tiling to installing the sink etc.

What is the best part of your work day?

Working with Jonny because he's a good bloke and we have a laugh while we are still working. He also explains everything really well.

Are you doing a VET course? If so, what is it? What do you like about it?

Yes, I'm doing sport and recreation because I started that course last year. I'm also still considering a career in something to do with sport so I'm keeping my options open. It's good to be able to do a course that I'm interested in and that I wouldn't have the option to study here at school.

Where is your placement and how did you arrange it? It's with Jonny Stephensen. I was at his brother Brendan's house talking about needing to organize a work placement and Jonny suggested I do it with him.

If a friend at school is deciding if they want to pursue VCAL and workplacement what would you say to them?

Definitely do it because you don't have the pressure of VCE and doing SACs - it's much more practical.

What are your plans for after Year 12?

I'll probably take a gap year and work a bit while I figure it out.

Nicole Stewart

Careers/VET Co-ordinator

Structured Workplace Learning

Calendar of Events

May	5 th	Deb Ball
	12 th	Top Arts Yr. 10,11,12 - Melbourne
	23 rd	School Photo's
June	5-9 th	Yr. 10-11 Exams
	5 th	Charlton Drive School VCAL
	12 th	Queen's Birthday (No school)
	13--16th	Yr. 12 Exams
	14 th	GAT
	19-23 rd	Yr. 10 Melbourne Trip
	19-23 rd	Yr. 10 Work Experience
	31 st	Last day Term 2



Community Events

WARRACKNABEAL BOXING GYM
W'beal Leisure Centre

Cardio boxing sessions
JUNIORS Monday's 4pm
SENIORS Mon & Wed 5:30pm
Gold Coin Donation
Like us on Facebook



As part of International Composting Awareness Week, Warracknabeal Neighbourhood House is hosting a

[Composting and Worm Farming](#) workshop at the Community Garden on Wednesday the 10th of May from 1.30pm – 3.30pm.

For everyone who loves gardening or who would like to find out how to start a compost pile that works, and a worm farm that flourishes, then this is definitely for you.



Trees for Mum

Plant a Tree for Mum this Mother's Day

9am - 11am, Sunday May 14,
Kellalac Oval, Henty Highway
FREE EVENT brunch supplied
Details call Tim on 0488 662 199



Who are you bringing back?

Warracknabeal's 150th Anniversary

Long Weekend June 9-12 2017

Friends, family, neighbours, work mates, team mates.....

BRING THEM BACK😊

www.warracknabeal150.com.au



It's time we talked: Pornography, young people and sexuality today



**MONDAY 15TH MAY
7PM TO 8:30PM**

**Community
Centre**

**FREE
ENTRY!**

COMMUNITY FORUM

READILY AVAILABLE AND AGGRESSIVELY MARKETING ONLINE, EXPOSURE TO HARDCORE PORNOGRAPHY IS NOW MAINSTREAM. PORN HAS BECOME A DEFAULT SEX EDUCATOR FOR MANY YOUNG PEOPLE, WITH SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS FOR THEIR CAPACITY TO NEGOTIATE FREE AND FULL CONSENT, FOR MUTUAL RESPECT, SEXUAL HEALTH AND RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS.

This session will be led by **Maree Crabbe**, coordinator of the community education project *Reality & Risk: Pornography, young people and sexuality*. Maree is co-producer and co-director of the documentary films *Love and Sex in an Age of Pornography*, broadcast on SBS in Australia and in six other countries, and *The Porn Factor*. She is also the author of *In The Picture* – a whole school resource to assist secondary schools to address the influence of explicit sexual imagery. Maree's articles on young people, sexuality and pornography have been published in online and print media.

Enquiries contact Warracknabeal Secondary College (03) 5398 1433